

The page features decorative elements consisting of faint, light gray leaf patterns in the top-left and bottom-right corners, and more detailed black line-art leaf branches in the top-right and bottom-left corners. A thin black horizontal line is positioned below the main title.

# Post Secondary Success Department

September 22, 2025



# Post Secondary Department Presenters

**Michele Chapman**, Director Post Secondary Success

**Myka Kennedy**, Assistant Director Early College and Career Pathways

**Milena Nedeljkovic**, Assistant Director Gifted, Accelerated, and Magnet

**Beth McKinney**, Coordinator AVID, APEX, and Summer Connections



# Additional Department Members

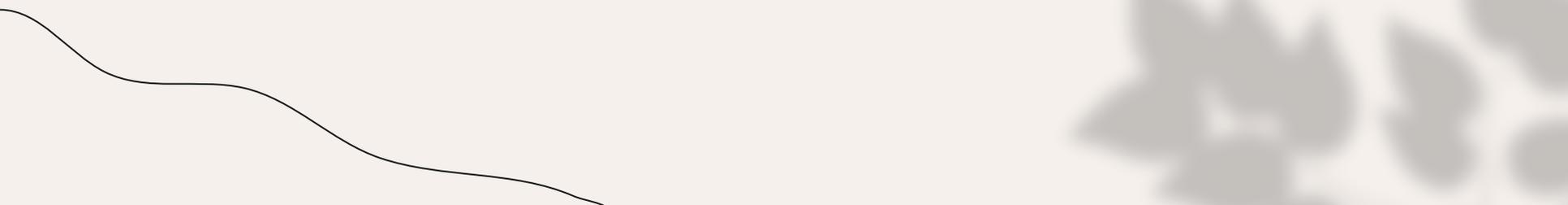


**Alexa Charsha**, U-46 Lead Counselor

**Dominique Zewde**, U-46 Lead Counselor

**Michelle Lortie**, Gifted, Accelerated, and Magnet Academies Coach

**Ed Chau**, Gifted, Accelerated, and Magnet Academies Coach

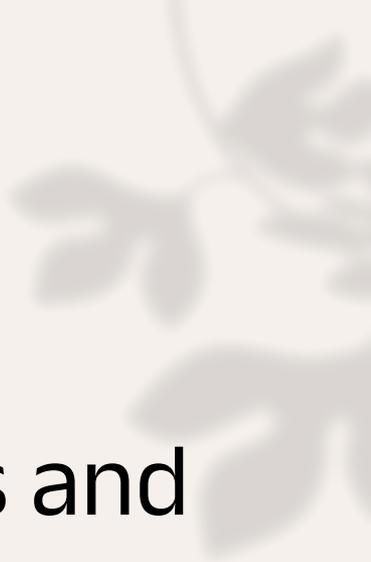


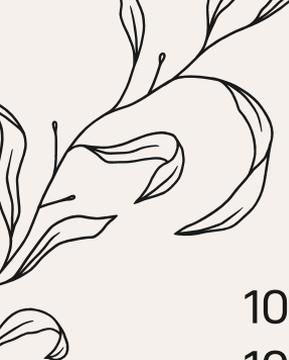
# Alignment to Strategic Plan



# Post Secondary Success Department

Every student will develop skills and interests for successful postsecondary transitions through life, college and/or career.





# Impact

100% of our students will graduate with a post secondary plan.

100% of our students will graduate with an Early College Experience.

- Advanced Placement Class
  - International Baccalaureate Class
  - Dual Credit Class
  - State Seal of Biliteracy
  - Industry Recognized Certification
  - Internship/Work-Based Learning Experience
  - College and Career Pathway Endorsement (CCPE)
- 

**Goal #1**  
Building Early  
Academic and  
Social  
Emotional  
Foundations

**Goal #2**  
Safety,  
Sense of  
Belonging,  
and  
Inclusion

## **Our Work**

Counseling and Post Secondary Teams  
AVID and APEX

Freshman Seminar and Middle School Advisory  
Magnet Academies

Gifted Programs and Accelerated Placements  
Pathways and Early College Experiences  
Summer Programming

**Goal #3**  
Academic  
Growth and  
Mastery

**Goal #4**  
Ready to  
Embrace a  
Diverse and  
Changing  
World

# Post Secondary and Career Expectations (PaCE)

---





## Postsecondary and Career Expectations

At the middle school and early high school level, the Illinois Postsecondary and Career Expectations (PaCE) Framework is designed to provide students with guided exploration of postsecondary planning and options in a manner that is consistent with adolescent development. Meaningful participation in postsecondary preparation programs requires that students perceive college and/or career as possible and probable. Too often, programs are designed to serve only students who already have a college-going or career-oriented identity. The developmental work in the middle school framework is intended to prepare students to more fully engage with the PaCE Framework throughout the critical high school years.



# School District U-46

By the end of 6th grade	By the end of 7th grade	By the end of 8th grade
<p><b>Implemented in School Year 2026-2027</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be supported to articulate aspirations</li> <li>• Be supported to explore their habits</li> <li>• Be supported to record their progress</li> <li>• Be supported to explore their interests</li> <li>• Be exposed to information about and example of wide range career goals</li> <li>• Be supported to create or change habit</li> <li>• Be exposed to practices that develop growth mindset</li> <li>• Be supported to develop their confidence in their abilities</li> <li>• Be supported to develop their confidence in their abilities</li> <li>• Be exposed to practices that develop growth mindset</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be supported to explore barriers to aspirations</li> <li>• Be supported to complete a career cluster survey</li> <li>• Be exposed to the concept of career clusters of interest</li> <li>• Be supported to explore career interests</li> <li>• Be supported to compare possible financial futures</li> <li>• Be exposed to a financial literacy unit in a course or workshop</li> <li>• Be exposed to the relationship between community service/extracurriculars and PS/career goals</li> <li>• Be supported to articulate personal strengths</li> <li>• Be supported to understand a growth mindset</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be supported to develop an educational plan for at least one career interest</li> <li>• Be supported to attend a career exploration day</li> <li>• Be supported to create SMART Goals</li> <li>• Be supported to complete a unit on education planning</li> <li>• Be exposed to the relationship between community service/extracurriculars and PS/career goals</li> <li>• Be supported to demonstrate a growth mindset</li> <li>• Be supported to engage in guided self-reflection</li> <li>• Be supported to identify sources of motivation</li> <li>• Be supported to envision a positive future</li> <li>• Be supported to explore how you learn best</li> <li>• Be supported to practice their strengths</li> </ul>
<p>Aspiration</p>	<p>Planning</p>	<p>Self-Advocacy</p>



## Postsecondary and Career Expectations

Each student should have an individualized learning plan to help make decisions about career and postsecondary (PS) education or training, to plan a course of study, and to make financial aid assessments with family members.

# School District U-46

By the end of 9th grade	By the end of 10th grade	By the end of 11th grade	By the end of 12th grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Complete an elective course to explore career interests</li> <li>● Know skills related to career interests</li> <li>● Know how career pathway courses and experiences articulate to degree programs at postsecondary options</li> <li>● Know one or two careers for further exploration</li> <li>● Complete a career interest survey</li> <li>● Complete a unit on education planning</li> <li>● Enroll as appropriate in early college credit courses</li> <li>● Outline a plan for community service and extracurricular activities related to postsecondary plans</li> <li>● Select course work for postsecondary/career plans aligned with the ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators (CCRI)</li> <li>● Know the relationship between high school coursework, attendance, and grades to postsecondary plans</li> <li>● Understand that taking the right courses in high school can reduce the cost of college</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Identify two related postsecondary paths and/or college majors strongly correlated with career area of interest</li> <li>● Create a postsecondary goal</li> <li>● Attend a college fair</li> <li>● Connect and build relationships with 2-3 adults to support the postsecondary and career selection process</li> <li>● Know different types of postsecondary credentials and institutions</li> <li>● Attend a postsecondary options workshop</li> <li>● Enroll as appropriate in early college credit courses</li> <li>● Select course work for postsecondary/career plans aligned with the ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators (CCRI)</li> <li>● Attend a basic financial aid presentation with a trusted adult</li> <li>● Know general cost ranges of various postsecondary options</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Create a resume and personal statement</li> <li>● Participate in a mock job interview</li> <li>● Visit at least one workplace aligned with career interests</li> <li>● Compare and contrast personal strengths and weaknesses with career choice</li> <li>● Review and update postsecondary goal.</li> <li>● Know entrance requirements, including application deadlines, for expected postsecondary programs of study</li> <li>● Complete a college fit/match inventory</li> <li>● Know 3-5 match schools, one safety, one reach school for postsecondary program of study</li> <li>● Enroll as appropriate in early college credit courses</li> <li>● Select course work for postsecondary/career plans aligned with the ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators (CCRI)</li> <li>● Complete a Postsecondary Plan Workshop</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attend a career exploration day, activity, or presentation</li> <li>● Participate in activities related to their career cluster of interest</li> <li>● Ensure all steps in the postsecondary/career processes are completed on time</li> <li>● Complete 3 or more admissions applications to postsecondary institutions</li> <li>● Visit at least 3 postsecondary institutions</li> <li>● Secure letters of recommendation for college and scholarship applications</li> <li>● Enroll as appropriate in early college credit courses</li> <li>● Submit a postsecondary plan</li> <li>● Complete a financial aid application.</li> <li>● Know estimated cost of chosen postsecondary options</li> <li>● Understand the student loan process and available loan options</li> <li>● Know the difference between need-based, merit-based, and self-help financial aid</li> <li>● Complete a thorough scholarship search and application process</li> <li>● Know how to find scholarships</li> <li>● Understand the various aspects of personal banking and financial wellness</li> <li>● Know how salary impacts standard of living</li> <li>● Understand how to be a responsible borrower</li> <li>● Understand W-4s, pay stubs, and income taxes</li> </ul>

# College and Career Pathway Endorsement



Approved:

- Precision Manufacturing
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)

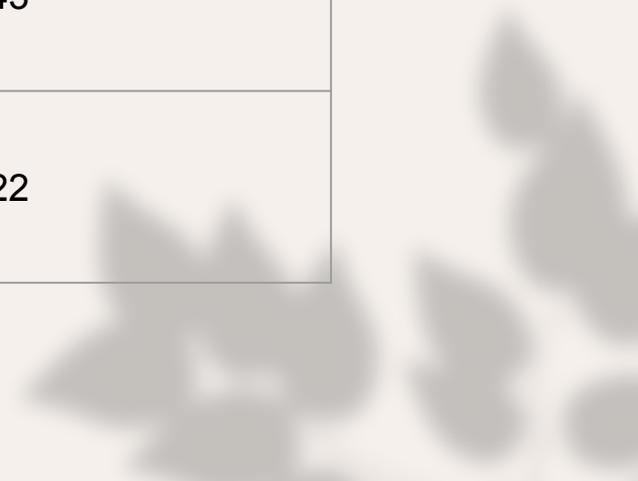
Planned for 2025-2026

- Engineering (PLTW)
  - Biomedical/Healthcare (PLTW)
  - Welding
  - Fire Science
- 

# College and Career Pathway Endorsement (CCPE)



<b>School Year</b>	<b>Number of Students</b>
2024-2025	43
2023-2024	22



# New Dual Credit Classes

- Criminal Justice - Regional Pathway at Elgin Community College
- AUT 171 (Suspension/Alignment) - Automotive Service
- AUT 172 (Brake Systems) - Advanced Auto. Tech.
- CDN 230 (Introduction to Videography) - Beacon Media and Digital Arts 1
- BUS 100 (Introduction to Business) - LEAD Business for Innovators

# Full Time Dual Credit

School Year	Number of Juniors	Number of Seniors	Seniors Graduating with Associate Degree
2025-2026	50	63	
2024-2025	50	61	44
2023-2024	48	49	34
2022-2023	40	70	40
2021-2022	40	44	34

# In-High School Dual Credit

<b>High School Dual Credit Enrollment</b>		
<b>School Year</b>	<b>Number of Students</b>	<b>Students passing with a C or better</b>
2025-2026	1,442	
2024-2025	1,391	1,075
2023-2024	1,017	785
2022-2023	524	410
2021-2022	205	171



**AVID**

---

# AVID

## ***Goal #4 Ready to Embrace a Diverse and Changing World - Equity***

***Commitment:*** We provide every student with quality experiences and support to identify their passions and pursue success at the next level.

- Pilot at Dream Academy
- AVID middle elective classes visited over 24 colleges including Northwestern, Notre Dame, Purdue, and University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- AVID Elementary implemented at three schools in the Elgin Network
- Freshman Seminar elective at all five high schools and Central School programs.
- Two AVID teachers selected to present at AVID National Conference: “AVID Student Leadership Summit: Amplifying Student Voice, Strengthening Student Agency”.

# AVID Celebrations

Six U-46 Students invited to participate in AVID Summer Institute as Student Leaders:  
*L-R: Umair Khan, Abimmanuel Garcia, Julissa Vega, Mateo Alba, McKenzie Norasith, and Victoria Bardesi.*



# Online Credit Recovery

- APEX is updating to Courseware
- Transition during Summer School 2026
- Courseware
  - Increased technical support
  - Larger catalog of courses
  - Aligned to state and national standards
  - Customizable courses

The page features decorative floral elements. In the top-left corner, there is a faint, light gray illustration of a leafy branch. In the top-right corner, there is a black line-art illustration of a branch with several leaves. In the bottom-left corner, there are two black line-art illustrations of leafy branches. In the bottom-right corner, there is a faint, light gray illustration of a leafy branch. The central text is framed by a thin horizontal line.

# Magnet Academies

---

# Magnet Academy GPA Reminder

Gradually increase the required GPA at the time of application from 2.0 to 2.8 over the course of three application cycles.

- Application 2025-2026 School Year - 2.5 GPA
  - Students in 7th grade will need to earn the minimum GPA required to be eligible to apply in the fall of the following year.
  - Students in 8th grade, who were offered and accepted a seat at one of the Magnet Academies, **must maintain or improve the minimum required GPA** by the completion of 8th grade.
- Application 2026-2027 School Year - 2.8 GPA

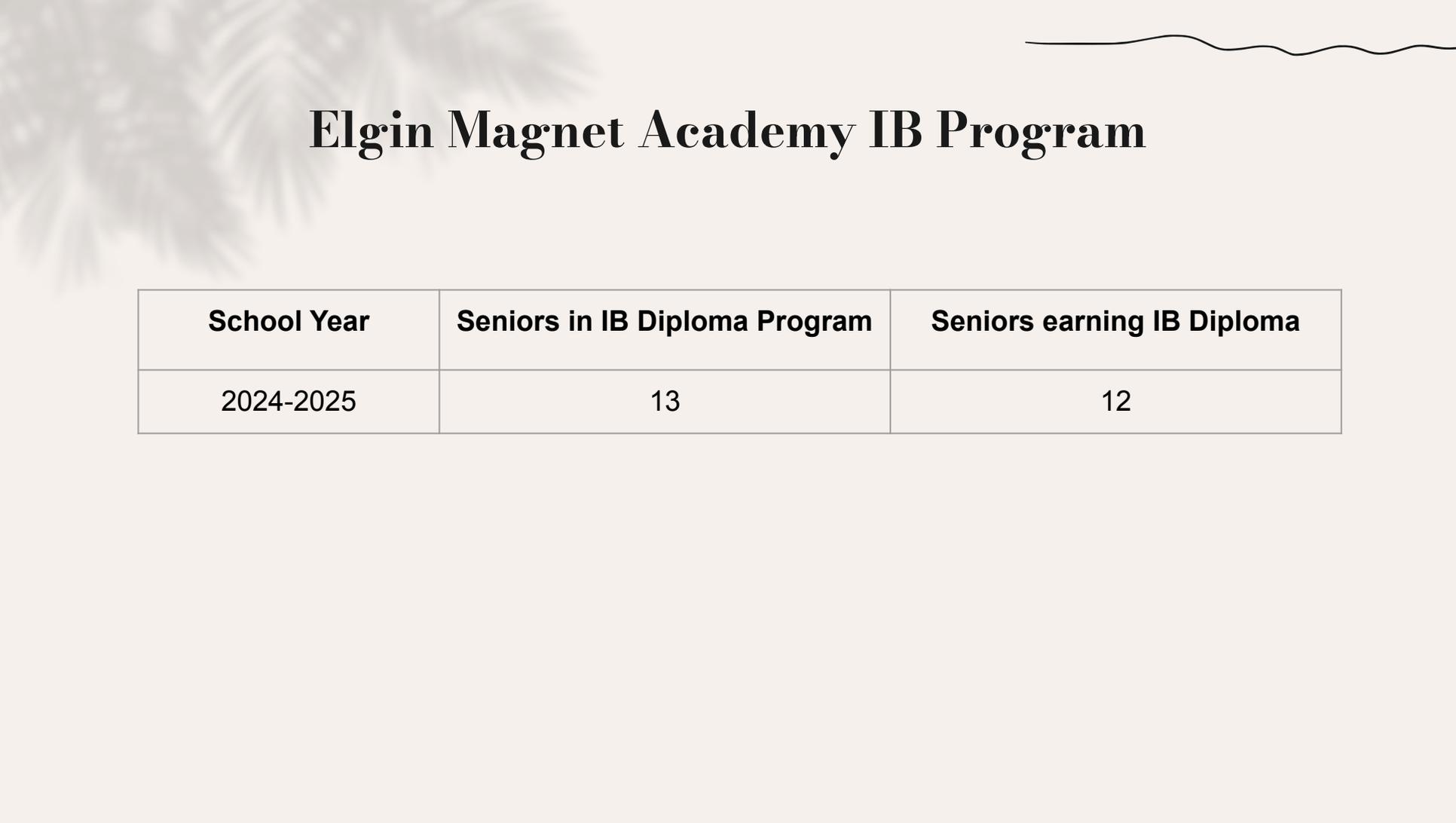
# Magnet Academy Application Update

Application Requirements	Before	Update
GPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GPA 2.2</li> <li>• 2 letters of recommendation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2025-2026 School Year GPA 2.5</li> </ul>
<p><i>Preferences-Students in the following categories receive automatic acceptance into the magnet program if they meet the minimum qualifications.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sibling</li> <li>• Project Access</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project Access</li> </ul>
<p><i>Priorities-Students who meet the minimum qualifications and provide evidence of meeting the criteria below can earn additional entries into the lottery.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geographic location</li> <li>• Program participation</li> <li>• Free/reduced lunch</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geographic location</li> <li>• Program participation</li> <li>• Free/reduced lunch</li> <li>• GPA <math>\geq</math> 3.75 *</li> <li>• Attendance <math>\geq</math> 95% *</li> </ul>

\* **Academic Recognition:** Students who achieved a GPA of 3.75 or higher in 7th grade will receive an additional entry (1).

\***Attendance Recognition:** Students with an attendance rate of 95% or higher in 7th grade will receive an additional entry (1).





# Elgin Magnet Academy IB Program

<b>School Year</b>	<b>Seniors in IB Diploma Program</b>	<b>Seniors earning IB Diploma</b>
2024-2025	13	12

# Elgin Magnet Academy IB Program

<b>Subject</b>	<b># Testing</b>	<b>Scores of 4 or More</b>	<b>Percent</b>
English A: Literature HL	47	46	98%
French B SL	1	1	100%
Spanish AB, SL	4	4	100%
Spanish B HL and SL	17	17	100%
Environment and Society	14	13	93%
Global Politics	24	21	87%
Soc, Cultural Anthropology	7	3	43%
Chemistry	19	6	31%
Physics	3	3	100%
Math: Analysis and Approaches	33	23	70%
Music	5	2	40%

The page features decorative floral elements. In the top-left and bottom-right corners, there are faint, light-gray silhouettes of leafy branches. On the left side, there are two thin black line drawings of leafy stems. On the right side, there is a more detailed black line drawing of a branch with several leaves and a small flower-like structure.

# Summer Programming

---

# Summer Programming Enrollment



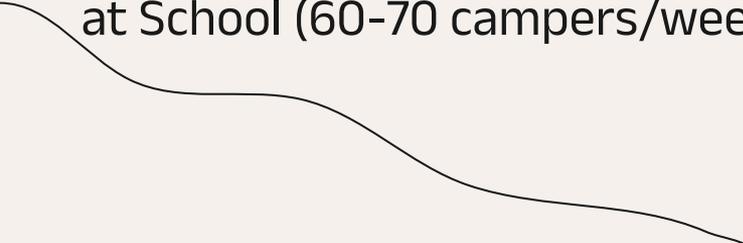
## School

High School: 1032/semester

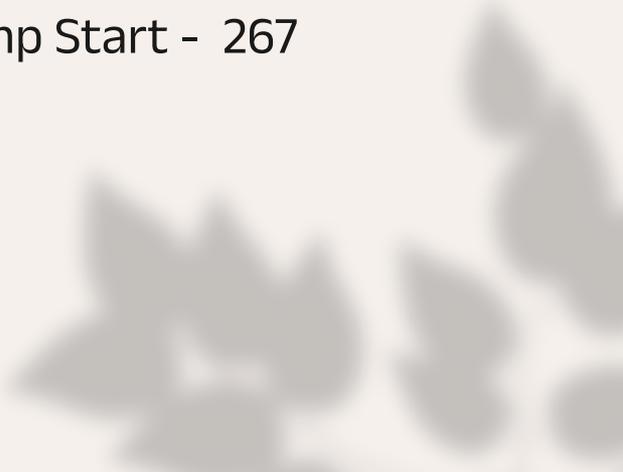
ESY HS/MS: 122

ESY ES: 295

Students also participated in after school programs with Boys and Girls Club of Elgin (183 students) and Right at School (60-70 campers/week).



## Summer Connections

- Brothers Rise Up - 52
  - I am LEAD - 53
  - Middle School Experience - 1,176
  - Freshman Connection - 1,316
  - College Jump Start - 267
- 

# Summer Internship Opportunities



Summer Year	Number of students
Summer 2025	124
Summer 2024	86
Summer 2023	48



# Summer School Graduation Data

<b>Summer School</b>	<b>Number of Graduates</b>
Summer 2025	153
Summer 2024	108
Summer 2023	113
Summer 2022	108
Summer 2021	103
Summer 2021	44



\*Save the Date!  
Summer School

**June 1 - July 1, 2026**

